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Paper No.: \_\_\_\_\_

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Patent Examining Operations

Patent Application

Inventor(s): Kenneth G. Walker  
Title: **SYSTEM FOR DISPOSAL OF FLUIDS**  
Serial No.: 09/609,868 (Continuation of 09/062,551)  
Filed: April 20, 1998  
Examiner: David J. Cho Art Unit: 3762  
Date: August 17, 2000

To: Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

As an amendment preliminary to the examination of the subject application, please amend the application as follows:

**In the Specification**

At page 9, line 14, after "strainer," change "and" to --end--.

**In the Claims**

Amend Claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 14, 15, 18, and 19 as follows:

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1. (Once amended) A canister for receiving body fluids, comprising:
    - (a) a body having side walls and a bottom [and adapted to sealably receive a removable lid];
    - (b) a removable lid for sealably covering said body;
    - (c) an inlet port in said lid for inflow of body fluids into said canister and for inflow of cleaning fluid into said canister;